(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last one year; and

(c) the action proposed to stop such racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Sale and purhcase of human organs including kidney is banned under the provisions of the Transplantation of Human Organ Act, 1994. The Act has stringent provisions for punishing any one who commits such acts. Under Section 13(2) of the Transplantation of Human Organ Act, 1994, the State Governments are empowered to appoint Appropriate Authorities for the purpose of the Act who are empowered to investigate any complaints of breach of provisions of the Act including those pertaining to sale and purchase of human organs including Kidney. The Act has been adopted by several States including the Government of Kerala.

National Population Fund

1239. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the controlling authority of the National Population fund has not been finalized so far; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. A decision has already been taken to locate the National Population Stabilisation Fund (NPSF) in the Department of Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Free Drugs to TB Patients in Delhi

1240. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched a scheme in Delhi to provide free drugs to T.B. patients even if they are getting treatment from private practitioners;